WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image scanning system capable of scanning an image in a plurality of scan modes, comprising:

a memory for storing a correction data file having correction data for each of the plurality of scan modes; and

a controller for checking upon scanning an image if correction data corresponding to a scan mode of that image scan operation is stored in said memory, and if the correction data is not stored, controlling to generate correction data corresponding to the scan mode, to execute an image scan using the generated correction data.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the correction data is shading data.

3. The system according to claim 1, wherein the correction data includes calibration data and shading data.

4. The system according to claim 1, wherein said controller controls to store the generated correction data in said memory.

5. The system according to claim 1, wherein the correction data file has information indicating a scan count,

said system further comprises a counter for counting the scan count every time an image scan is executed, and

said controller checks if the scan count has reached a predetermined value, and determines that correction data corresponding to the selected scan mode is not stored if the scan count has reached the

5   predetermined value.

6.   The system according to claim 5, wherein said controller deletes all correction data stored in said memory when the scan count has reached the predetermined value, and

10   wherein said counter resets the scan count to an initial value when all the correction data stored in said memory are deleted.

7.   The system according to claim 5, wherein the correction data file further includes data of a model

15   name of an image scanning apparatus and a driver version, and

said controller checks if the model name of the image scanning apparatus in the correction data file matches a model name of an image scanning apparatus

20   used, and if the driver version in the correction data file matches a driver version used, and when one of the checking results is negative, controls to generate new correction data corresponding to a scan mode without using the existing correction data to execute an image

25   scan using the generated correction data, and to store the generated correction data in said memory.

8. The system according to claim 7, wherein said controller deletes all correction data stored in said memory when one of the checking results is negative, and

5 wherein said counter resets the scan count to the initial value when all the correction data stored in said memory are deleted.

9. The system according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of scan modes include a mode for scanning a
10 transparent document, and

said controller controls to generate correction data for each scan, to execute an image scan using the generated correction data, and to store the generated correction data in said memory when an image is scanned
15 in the mode for scanning the transparent document.

10. The system according to claim 3, wherein the plurality of scan modes include a mode for scanning a transparent document, and

said controller controls to generate calibration
20 data for each scan, to execute an image scan using the generated calibration data, and to store the generated calibration data in said memory when an image scan is performed in the mode for scanning a transparent document.

25 11. The system according to claim 1, further comprising a selector for selecting a desired one of the plurality of scan modes.

12. The system according to claim 1, wherein said image scanning system is constructed by connecting to one of a plurality of different image sensing apparatuses,

5   said memory stores the correction data file for each of the plurality of different image sensing apparatuses, and

said controller independently controls for each of the plurality of different image sensing apparatuses.

10 13. An image scanning method in an image scanning system which can scan an image in a plurality of scan modes, and has a memory for storing a correction data file having correction data for each of the plurality of scan modes, comprising:

15   a first checking step of checking upon scanning an image if correction data corresponding to a scan mode of the image scan operation is stored in the memory;

a step of, when the correction data corresponding

20 to the scan mode is not stored, generating correction data corresponding to the scan mode; and

a step of executing an image scan using the generated correction data.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the

25 correction data is shading data.

15.   The method according to claim 13, wherein the
correction data includes calibration data and shading
data.

16.   The method according to claim 13, further
5 comprising:

a step of storing the generated correction data
in the memory.

17.   The method according to claim 13, wherein the
correction data file has information indicating a scan
10 count,

said image scan method further comprises:

a counting step of counting the scan count every
time the image scan is executed; and

a step of checking if the scan count reaches a
15 predetermined value, and

it is determined in said first checking step that
correction data corresponding to the selected scan mode
is not stored if the scan count has reached the
predetermined value.

20 18.   The method according to claim 17, further
comprising:

a deletion step of deleting all correction data
stored in the memory when the scan count has reached
the predetermined value; and

25   a reset step of resetting the scan count to an
initial value when all the correction data stored in
the memory are deleted in said delete step.

19.   The method according to claim 17, wherein the correction data file further includes data of a model name of an image scanning apparatus and a driver version, and

5   said method further comprises:

         a second checking step of checking if the model name of the image scanning apparatus in the correction data file matches a model name of an image scanning apparatus used, and if the driver version in the

10   correction data file matches a driver version used;

         a step of generating new correction data corresponding to a scan mode without using the existing correction data when one of the checking results is negative;

15   a step of storing the generated correction data in the memory; and

         a step of executing an image scan using the generated correction data.

20.   The method according to claim 19, further

20   comprising:

         a delete step of deleting all the correction data stored in the memory when one of the checking results is negative; and

         a reset step of resetting the scan count to the

25   initial value when all the correction data stored in the memory are deleted in the delete step.

21.　The method according to claim 13, wherein the plurality of scan modes include a mode for scanning a transparent document, and when an image is scanned in the mode for scanning the transparent document, said method comprises the steps of:

generating the correction data for each scan;

storing the generated correction data in the memory; and

executing the image scan using the generated correction data.

22.　The method according to claim 15, wherein the plurality of scan modes include a mode for scanning a transparent document, and when an image is scanned in the mode for scanning the transparent document, said method comprises the steps of:

generating the calibration data for each scan;

storing the generated calibration data in the memory; and

executing the image scan using the generated calibration data.

23.　The method according to claim 13, further comprising a selection step of selecting a desired one of the plurality of scan modes.

24.　The method according to claim 13, wherein the image scanning system is constructed by connecting to one of a plurality of different image sensing apparatuses,

the memory stores the correction data file for each of the plurality of different image sensing apparatuses, and

said steps are independently executed for each of the plurality of different image sensing apparatuses.

25. A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied in said medium for an image scanning method in an image scanning system which can scan an image in a plurality of scan modes, and has a memory for storing a correction data file having correction data for each of the plurality of scan modes, said product including:

first computer readable program code means for checking upon scanning an image if correction data corresponding to a scan mode of the image scan operation is stored in the memory;

second computer readable program code means for, when the correction data corresponding to the scan mode is not stored, generating correction data corresponding to the scan mode; and

third computer readable program code means for executing an image scan using the generated correction data.